

# **CITY OF REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION**

## ***MINUTES***

**April 11, 2002**

**Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Chairperson Jill Schmidt, Rebecca LaBrunerie, Heidi Houghton, Kay Tarapolsi; Youth Advocates Jamie Bakun, Jane Butterfield

**ABSENT AND EXCUSED:** Commissioners Joe Adams, Cara Byrne, Una McAlinden, Regina Riley

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sandra Bettencourt, Recreation Program Manager

**OTHERS PRESENT:** David Backes

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## **AGENDA**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Jill Schmidt called to order the regular meeting of the Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) at 7:00 p.m. at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center.

**Notations:** A quorum was lacking at this meeting (five Commissioners are required); therefore items requiring action were postponed until the next RAC meeting.

### **II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Amendment to the Redmond Arts Commission (RAC) minutes of March 14, 2002:

- Rebecca LaBrunerie was absent and excused from the March meeting (remove from "Commissioners Present")

Motion for approval postponed until May meeting due to lack of quorum.

### **III. ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**

Action Items:

- Delete A

Discussion Items:

- Add Cultural Congress Convention Attendance

Reports:

- Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit
- May RAC Meeting – Televised
- Fire Station 11 and Perrigo Community Park Artwork – Public Input
- Derby Days

#### **IV. ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

David Backes, Redmond High School student and candidate for RAC youth advocate position, gave a brief bio. Currently Junior Class President, he has been involved in leadership and student government since seventh grade. His artistic interests are digital video productions and music.

#### **V. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **A. Multi-media Presentation**

Postponed. Nick Staritchenok and Cris Berns will show the multi-media presentation at the televised RAC May meeting.

##### **B. Leary Way Bridge Mural – Concept Approval**

Motion for approval postponed until May meeting due to lack of quorum.

##### **C. Arts Plan Survey Questions – Recommendation**

Motion for approval postponed until May meeting due to lack of quorum.

##### **D. Derby Days Booth**

Motion for approval postponed until May meeting due to lack of quorum.

##### **E. Gallery Program Expenses**

Motion for approval postponed until May meeting due to lack of quorum.

## **VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### **A. Joint Meeting with Council – Update**

Schmidt announced that the May 14 joint meeting with City Council has been postponed to either June or July. The Council offered an alternative date of April 30; however, Schmidt declined due to the unavailability of some RAC members and the short notice. The 5/1/02 rehearsal meeting was therefore also removed from the schedule.

Schmidt presented Commissioner Riley's outline draft for the joint meeting. She asked that notes and suggestions be submitted to Riley or Houghton for discussion at the next Nexus meeting (instead of the May televised RAC meeting).

See VII.7 Nexus Report.

### **B. Set Annual Planning Retreat Date**

Members discussed the annual retreat date. Bettencourt noted that Commissioners might want to use a June date for the joint meeting rehearsal in lieu of a retreat meeting; they could schedule the retreat in the fall (September). Commissioners concurred. Bettencourt will check the June schedule tomorrow (4/12/02) so as to provide recommended June dates by the May RTC meeting.

### **C. Visioning Program Goals**

Schmidt presented the proposed new RAC mission statement to the Parks and Human Services Committee (PHSC). All PHSC members approved of the statement and agreed it was clear and easy to understand.

Houghton reported that the Nexus Committee recommended the Commission list five or six program goals to achieve over the next year. She recommended a preliminary list be made as an action item for the next RAC meeting. LaBrunerie urged willingness to support each other in their committees. Commissioners agreed to continue budget support for these programs:

1. Art Education: The curriculum program is a top priority; it will be an ongoing project for some time.
2. Visual Arts: Schmidt reported that the biggest program to expand is the sculpture garden. When adding a curator in the future, more funds would be needed. Bettencourt noted that staff would submit a funding request to City Council for the garden this year. Also important to fund would be the maintenance of the City's art collection.

3. Performing Arts: Little to no King County funding would be forthcoming this year. It is possible that reduced funding would mean cutting back on Arts in the Parks and the Winter Performance Series. Commissioners supported the idea of charging a nominal fee at performances to help sustain the programs.
4. Co-sponsorship with RASP for *Write Out Loud!*
5. Grants

#### **D. Direct Mail Fund Raising Campaign**

Houghton expressed concerns regarding the direct mail fund raising campaign:

- RAC would be taking large steps into the community with fund raising and must be fully behind it. She suggested listing the campaign as an action item for the next RAC meeting to confirm the commitment.
- It could look like RAC was competing with other organizations for the few cultural dollars available.
- A different mailing list would be needed for the campaign (not the artist list). LaBrunerie suggested obtaining a list from the Chamber of Commerce. Houghton has e-mailed Roger Kjos, Nexus committee member, to ask if he would be willing to work on a new list.

Houghton reported that Kjos has drafted a well-composed letter to the community for the campaign. LaBrunerie requested to know the amount it would cost to do the mailing.

#### **E. Cultural Congress Convention Attendance**

Schmidt referenced a flyer advertising the Washington Cultural Congress 2002 Convention from April 28 to 30, 2002. She, Byrne, and Bettencourt would be attending the convention in LaConner for all three days; all Commissioners were invited. Schmidt advocated sending RAC representatives every year due to its productive and informative benefit. Tarapolsi stated she would like to attend the Sunday afternoon sessions.

### **VII. REPORTS**

#### **A. Arts Commissioner/Committees**

##### **1. Chair and Vice Chair**

None.

## **2. Visual Arts**

Schmidt reported on the following:

### **a. Leary Way Mural**

At the next May televised RAC meeting, Mark Edwards will be asked to show his art concepts for the mural under the Leary Way Bridge. Skillingstead has noted that the process has been met with approval by Public Works and other staff. She will inform the Trails Commission and the Park Board of the project. The actual painting could be postponed, however, until later than the anticipated end of May or early June, due to conflicts for Naomi Call, organizer of the project.

Schmidt stated that at the next meeting she would like to propose approving a \$500 honorarium for the artist, who is painting both sides of the mural. LaBrunerie recommended addressing the project at the joint Council meeting agenda as an FYI to them.

### **b. Art Outside the Box**

Schmidt will meet with John at Redmond Signs to find out what it will take to get the utility boxes painted in terms of preparation and type of paint. Public Works would need to be advised if preparation is necessary. There is no need for safe paint now, since students would not be involved in the actual painting (only in the design work).

LaBrunerie suggested holding an unveiling for the media of the finished painted box. Schmidt and LaBrunerie will discuss guidelines together. Schmidt noted Fire Station 11 wants to paint/decorate their utility box, also.

Schmidt reported that Commissioner Byrne has asked her to be the artist in residence at Horace Mann Art Night. Schmidt will focus on Art Outside the Box with students in that area. Byrne will choose another utility box to be painted for the program.

### **c. Fire Station 11**

The selection panel met with the four artist finalists this week to hear their presentations about their proposals for the Fire Station 11 art project. The selection committee recommended artist Mary Beth Llorens' and her water-wall of lighted glass mosaic depicting a fireman holding a child. Plaques for memorials will be displayed at the bottom of the mosaic. Elizabeth Conner's artwork for Perrigo Community Park, Ms. Llorens' artwork for the fire

station, and the other finalists' proposals are on display at Fire Station 11 until April 19. They are there for public viewing and comment. The proposals will then be displayed at ORSCC and the Public Safety Building respectively until May 9.

Llorens also submitted a second proposal for a rounded mosaic bench depicting water on one side and fire on the other side of the bench. The addition of the bench exceeded the budget; consequently, the fire department may raise money and solicit other help from corporations in order to purchase the bench. Schmidt suggested that perhaps the Visual Art Committee could contribute to the bench purchase. Houghton proposed matching funds to a certain point, perhaps with what is raised. Schmidt has asked Andy Hail, fire station Lieutenant, to come to the televised May meeting when the art proposals would be shown; she will also ask him to come with a number they wish to raise so people could contribute.

**d. Perrigo Community Park**

No new update.

**e. Traffic Calming Project**

No new update.

**f. Requests**

Arriba Stature, artist, has requested to have a self-maintained art gallery display starting next fall at the ORSCC to show her works and those of others, and to offer these pieces for sale. She would like to do a Call for Artists to include a showing of two artists for a couple of months at a time, then rotate out and bring in new ones. The Visual Arts Committee will recommend improving and funding the lighting fixtures for the areas Ms. Stature has selected for display. This will be an action item for next month's RAC agenda. Schmidt will continue to bring updates.

**3. Literary Arts**

LaBrunerie reported on the following:

**a. *Write Out Loud!***

The *Write Out Loud!* event is scheduled for April 20-27, 2002. The following advertisements have been done:

- Direct mailing with a schedule of events

- *Redmond Reporter* article (it did not state that it was RAC supported, however)
- Article in *Focus on Redmond* and the *Parks and Recreation Guide*
- An RCTV Point of View segment will be shown, interviewing Melna Skillingstead and a WOL representative
- Posters around town

LaBrunerie asked for a photographer contact who could take pictures of the literary events. Tarapolsi volunteered; Bettencourt suggested that Skillingstead might be available at some of the events to take pictures with the City's digital camera.

#### **b. *Focus* Articles**

LaBrunerie asked Commissioners to turn in their book recommendations for the next issue of *Focus* by April 25. Houghton commented that her last book review in the *Focus* got cut and did not make sense. LaBrunerie will investigate and ask the City's print shop what they might cut before it goes to print for the next issue.

### **4. Arts Education**

Schmidt reported on the following:

#### **a. Art Docent Program**

The Lake Washington School District (LWSD) PTA is now taking over coordination of the Art Docent program for the entire school district. Also, the Tacoma School District has asked LWSD to share the program with them.

Schmidt reported that the Arts Education Committee met to set up the art docent follow-up meeting for the six schools' docent program. Another meeting would be held some time in April before the Arts Education Grant deadline.

#### **b. Curriculum Project**

Grants have been submitted, with good backup statistics and letters of endorsement. Funding from these grants would sustain the curriculum program for third through sixth grades.

### **5. Grants**

Tarapolsi reported that the Arts Education Grant applications are due April 26.

## **6. Performing Arts**

Schmidt read an e-mail from Commissioner Adams, who was unable to attend this meeting:

Adams attended the King County Arts Commission Performance Network meeting to discuss funding/performers for the Winter Performance Series 2002-03. The result was that Redmond would receive a portion of grant funds from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Adams has been working on a web site where performing artists who submit materials to the Committee can be tracked, discussed, and evaluated. The site is secure and only for a private discussion forum for the development of RAC performances. So far the site contains a performing artist roster, message board, picture section, chat room, calendar, document file, and link sections.

## **7. Arts Funding – NEXUS**

### **a. \$1.25 Per Capita Analysis Draft**

Houghton presented a draft of the \$1.25 per capita analysis compiled by Riley, Skillingstead, and Bettencourt, especially designed to inform Commissioners about the funding and where the City stands.

Bettencourt noted that RAC would have a clearer budget picture by June, in time to specifically address financial issues at the joint meeting with City Council. In order to warrant support for financial increases, emphasis would be placed on educating Council on all that RAC does.

LaBrunerie suggested putting the spreadsheet in a color graph to give to the Council. A color graph could speak for itself and may not require additional explanation. Schmidt agreed that the draft could be an educational tool.

Commissioners expressed kudos to Riley for putting together the spreadsheet draft.

Schmidt asked Commissioners to consider volunteering for the Nexus Committee when Riley leaves the Committee in September or October following her completion of the budget work.

### **b. Joint Study Session with Council and RAC**



Commissioners reviewed the Joint Study Session plan as drafted by Riley. LaBrunerie suggested giving Council members these itemized points in a small booklet and then speak with them on four or five priority items. She emphasized that the socialization at the end of the meeting should provide good feedback. Schmidt noted that text must first be written for the points. She will e-mail Adams to ask him to write some text. Tarapolsi will write text regarding the sculpture garden. Schmidt clarified they should be short paragraphs that explain the points, since Council knows very little about what RAC does. LaBrunerie will also work on writing text. Schmidt also noted that in addition to her speaking in the joint meeting, the committee chairs would also give their perspectives.

**c. Council Coffee Meeting Report**

LaBrunerie and Tarapolsi gave a report on their coffee meeting with Councilperson Holly Plackett:

- Plackett inquired about Derby Days participation and performing artists.
- She favored Ken Turner's sculptures at Grass Lawn Park.
- She supported art concepts for the City's bus shelters: Work as a joint project with shelter improvement and artwork, tying the shelters together with a common artistic theme (Schmidt noted that Erika Vandenbrande, Planning Department, had been working on this project; the outcome was not known).
- Plackett supported charging admission for high quality artist events.
- She may be running for mayor.
- Richard Cole had announced the New York fire station was inundated with "firemen art" and wanted to know if Redmond would like a particular donated piece. Tarapolsi will call Cole to get the contact name. She will bring an update to the next Visual Arts Committee meeting.
- Plackett asked about the \$1.25 per capita fund, and was aware that RAC needed more money.
- Tarapolsi explained to Plackett that RAC needed more money for the sculpture garden. She emphasized it was a destination to bring students.

Plackett agreed to meet with LaBrunerie and Tarapolsi on a monthly basis to stay informed.

Former Commissioner Roger Kjos also has a scheduled meeting with Councilperson Sharon Dorning on Tuesday, April 23, at 10:00 a.m. Schmidt might attend, also. Byrne and Houghton have a future date with Councilperson Nancy McCormick.

## **8. Youth Advocate**

Butterfield and Bakun will stay on the Commission through summer until they leave for college. Schmidt reported that two new advocates would start as soon as possible. They would overlap with the current advocates' terms in order to begin Commission involvement and be included with other projects such as Art Outside the Box.

Butterfield gave a report on performance plays being held at the Redmond High School. Commissioners encouraged and reminded her that Redmond Drama could apply for the Arts Education Grant.

Schmidt reported that Butterfield was named a Washington Scholar, which grants her tuition support at any state college for four years. The State Legislature recognizes three students in each legislative district to give them funds to attend schools in Washington State in anticipation they will remain in the state.

Schmidt and Bakun have worked together on a project for a Gonzaga University senior. Bakun has designed a logo, letterhead, business card, and brochure. She has also designed a logo for Tarapolsi's non-profit organization; Tarapolsi's book will be published shortly.

Bakun also received recognition in the *Eastside Journal* for her visual arts participation on the RAC.

Butterfield reported that Mr. Robinson would not be available for Derby Days this year as he will be out of town.

## **9. Marketing**

LaBrunerie reported on the video project. Patrick Hirsch said RCTV spots are currently full. He would let LaBrunerie know when there is an open spot.

## **10. Outdoor Sculpture Exhibit**

Tarapolsi met with Skillingstead to do a Call for Artist write-up; Schmidt designed the postcard. The call would be mailed out this month. Artists will have May and June to apply, with the submission deadline at the end of June. At the July RAC meeting, Commissioners would approve between 12 to 15 artists. It is anticipated that the sculptures would be installed by the end of July or beginning of August. The brochure would be ready by September.

## **B. Staff Reports**

Bettencourt reported on the following:

**1. Traffic Calming Project Update**

The bronze leaf design was chosen for the concrete artwork. Bruce Myers will also design a bronze leaf plaque for all the recognitions.

**2. Cultural Congress Attendance**

See VI. E.

**3. Arts Administrator Vacation – April 13 – 21, 2002**

Skillingstead will be on vacation between 4/13 and 4/21/02. Emily Fischer will be acting Recreation Manager. LaBrunerie or Tarapolsi may contact her for the digital camera for the *Write Out Loud!* event documentation.

**4. May RAC Meeting - Televised**

Commissioners were reminded that next month's meeting will be televised and to arrive early.

**5. Fire Station 11 and Perrigo Community Park Artwork – Public Input**

Commissioners should receive an e-mail with a schedule for the display of the artwork proposals for the fire station and Perrigo Community Park beginning at Fire Station 11. The display is for the purpose of public input.

**6. Derby Days**

Schmidt reported that Derby Days is being organized by the City this year (not the Chamber of Commerce as in past years), focusing on a one-day event, to be held Saturday, July 13. The format has been rearranged; Schmidt noted the planning sounded excellent. RAC has the option of having a booth. Commissioners could set up a booth with brochures like last year, with minimum manning necessary.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned by Chair Schmidt at 8:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Recording Secretary: Pamela K. Maybee, *Call A Typist*

**NEXT REDMOND ARTS COMMISSION MEETING:**

***Televised: May 9, 2002***

**Council Chambers – Public Safety Building**

**7:00 p.m.**

# Redmond Arts Commission

Meeting: April 11, 2002

## Audience Present

*Please note: Information provided at this public meeting becomes part of the City's permanent record.*

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE
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